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The Kite Runner

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**Summary:** This next section of The Kite Runner goes from bad to worse as the struggles that Amir and his family face grow even more. After Amir and Baba leave for the United States, Amir finds a girl that he falls in love with. Her name is Saraya, and she lives in Fremont, California. Amir aspires to become a writer, but at first Baba disapproves. Amir is hit hard by the news of Baba who is diagnosed with lung cancer. The most frustrating aspect of this is that Baba does not want treatment for the cancer. Since Amir knew that his time left with Baba would not be much longer, he decided to finally ask Saraya’s hand in marriage. Baba is pleased by this news and they all plan for the wedding. Shortly after, Baba dies. There was a huge ceremony held and all of the Afghans that Baba helped went to the funeral to pay their respects. The story continues on years later as it fasts forward to Amir and Saraya’s life together. They attempted to have children but failed and were not sure why this was happening. Amir receives a phone call from a long-lost friend, Rahim Khan, whom he learned is very ill. Shortly after, Amir decides to leave for Pakistan to see Rahim Khan. He meets with Amir and tells him of what little time he has left, and gives him updates on the Talaban’s takeover of Afghanistan. More unsettling news is given to Amir as he learns that Hassaan is no longer alive. He learned that Hassaan was shot to death by the talaban after they invaded Amir’s old home and killed Hassaan’s wife.

**Analysis:** This part of the book was very intense for me. I never really understood how one bad thing could happen after the other. I’m a little concerned to read about what will happen next because I hope that nothing as upsetting as this part of the book will happen again. I did not like how so many of my favorite characters died in terrible ways. First it was Baba, Amir’s courageous father. Then it was Hassaan, Amir’s long lost friend who he ultimately betrayed. Now I learned that Rahim Khan is dying which is another part of the book that was sad. I also found it confusing as the point of view changed in part of the book to Rahim Khan’s first person point of view. I was confused as to why it wasn’t Amir that told that part of the book when he was speaking with Rahim Khan.

**Application:**  In this section of the book, I have more of an understanding of Amir’s human roles and behaviors. As he matures, he learns how to take responsibility of his own actions and seeks for some sort of peace with himself. He and his father were trying to achieve harmony in a way of the life that they were living in Afghanistan. They were not at peace in Afghanistan so they moved to the United States. It’s interesting to see people from different cultures as they have feel the same, act the same as we do, and share some of the same behaviors as we do. Even though as Amir grows up, we can see the different roles he is achieving. He goes from playing the human role as a son, to a husband, to trying to become a father himself. He tries to build on his relationships with the people in his life that are not going to be around with him much longer, was how he learned to grow and learned as he matured.